# GOOD GOVERNANCE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NAKHON RATCHASIMA PROVINCE THAILAND

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**Abstract-** This research want to study the structure, processes, factors and limitations of local government in NakhonRatchasima about good governance. To develop knowledge about good governance to suit the local government administration.
Research methodology used qualitative research by case studies the research tool is in-depth interview 14 persons also used participatory observation and documents. As Triangulation (Creswell, 2013), both the data and research methods.
The conceptual framework used good governance concept by UNESCAP (UNESCAP, 2005) to analyzed. This research focus on the structure of authority and other agencies involved in the administration of local government. Including interest groups and stakeholders which have affect to the administration, both directly and indirectly by all parties trying to influence local government and exploitation. The administrators will be the coordinate and try to balance all the power to be able to manage effectively and achieving the purposes.

**Keywords-** good governance, local government, administration

## I. INTRODUCTION

The role of local governments in Thailand.Is responsible for meeting the needs of local people and to comply with government policy.Responsible for the two roles conflict, because the priority of different issues.People in need of help in solving immediate problems and economic problems in the family. But the government wants to solve the overall problem, which is structural and macroeconomic problems. Thailand also gives priority to the central government, rather than decentralization. Make the budget allocated by the government and the need to implement policies and plans of the government budget each year. While the budget makes little local storage to meet the needs of people in the area can be difficult. Administration of local government always have trouble. While revenue from local taxes are less the budget for local solutions are not enough. This is a problem which occurs in a non-democratic country with a total power at the center of everything. But for the country to democratic decentralization to local authorities conducted themselves independently.Since the legislation, taxation policies and plans.budgeting and has the authority to make decisions on local services. The central government will only support and assist.
local government elected by the people in the area have managed to satisfy the demands of local people first. But the government has a duty to solve the problem in the whole of the country. Therefore, cannot reach problems of each community as well as local governments who have direct contact with the people before and after the elections and relevant to the lives of people in the area at all times. Unlike other agencies of the public organizations. Local administrators have to experience and acknowledge the need and feelings of the people in the area as well as the administration's decision will make the affect and impact directly to the community. It's make the use of good governance in local administration is essential. Good governance affect the efficiency of the administration clearly. The need to develop good governance concept to the local administration which are suitable to the context of the country.

Example of good governance concept that integrated the knowledge about corruption in the school curriculum according to 'Growing Good, Say No to Corruption Project' that identifies how corruption affects the student and the country. (Jintalikhidtdee, 2014)
Objective of this research to study the structure, process and administrative of good governance in eight components. Such as rule of law, participation, efficiency and effectiveness, consensus oriented, transparency and accountability.

responsiveness, equity and inclusiveness of local government in NakhonRatchasima Province Thailand.

## II. DETAILS EXPERIMENTAL

### 2.1 Objectives of study

The objectives of this research are about structure process and outcome of good governance administration of local government and what are the

problems and difficulty to implement central government policy and strategies in term of good governance.

**Table 1: Good governance in local government administration Conceptual framework**

| Order | Good governance | Structure and process |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Participation<br>Consensus oriented<br>Responsiveness<br>Equity and inclusiveness | Government policies<br>Local government plans and activities<br>Election |
| 2 | Rule of law<br>Transparency<br>Accountability | Policy making<br>Check and auditing<br>Budgeting |
| 3 | Efficiency and effectiveness | Policy evaluation<br>Policy implementation |
| **Order** | **Administration** | **Outcomes** |
| 1 | Public hearing<br>Referendum<br>Social activities | Public policy<br>Public security<br>Cohesion<br>Fair and equal |
| 2 | Internal and external audit<br>Law enforcement | Corruption reduction<br>Peacefulness |
| 3 | Public service | Productivity<br>National income<br>Quality of life<br>Good public service |

## 2.2 Literature Reviews

Good governance (UNESCAP, 2005) has 8 major characteristics such as 1) Participation 2) Rule of law 3) Transparency 4) Responsiveness 5) Consensus orientated 6) Equity and inclusiveness 7) Effectiveness and efficiency 8) Accountability. All of these characters help to minimized corruption and responsive to the needs of society.

1) Participation: The participation may be made directly or through institutions or through legal representatives by participatory democracy need to allow people to take part in the preparation of plans and policy decision-making process in public affairs related to the lives of people both locally and nationally.

2) Rule of law: The administration rules that require the mutual consent of the society to be able to live together in peace. Those rules take into account the rights and ownership of sovereignty of the people in a democracy. People must abide by the law without violating the rights and liberties of others.

3) Transparency: Officers and directors of public affairs, everyone must act openly, both the processes and information to the public. To show good faith in the work.The opportunity for the public to access information relevant to the administration without obscuring. This helps prevent corruption.

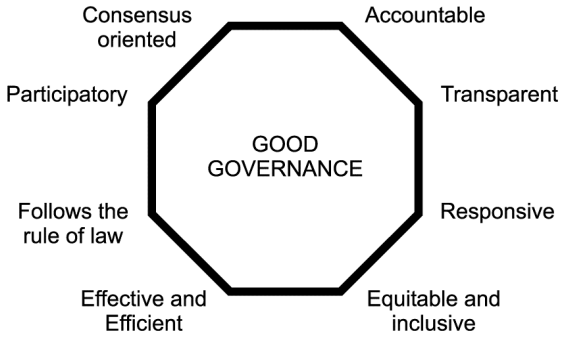
4) Responsiveness: A process of administrative institutions to meet the demands of interest groups and stakeholders in society, including the voters.

5) Consensus Oriented: Finding a equilibrium in the allocation of benefits to various groups in society have different needs. An agreement that all groups can live together in peace.

6) Equity and inclusiveness: As members of society receive services from public organizations equality. Especially those who are socially disadvantaged to share the benefits and resources and be a part of their society.

7) Effectiveness and efficiency: Refers to the process and product of the institutions that serve the needs of society while resources are limited. The concept of efficiency in the context of good governance include sustainable use of natural resources and environmental protection.

8) Accountability: This characteristic is a key requirement of good governance. It's not just about the governmental institutions but also involve civil society and private sector organizations. They must be accountable to the public and stakeholders about their decision-making or actions that affected to the public. But accountability cannot be enforced properly without transparency and rule of law.




**Source:** Unescap (2005)

**Figure 1: Good Governance Model**

## 2.3Methodology

The objectives of this research concern about structure process and outcome of good governance administration in local government it's suit to used Qualitative research.

We used 3 groups of key informant to represent each side of personal interest and perspectives. First: administrator of local government, second: people in the area. Third: interest group and government organizations. This is triangulation of information to compare and analyzed from different angles could make the analysis and interpretation has all aspects. Include the political, economic and social contexts.

This research also select 3 tools to collected data and information (Creswell, 2007) were 1) in-depth interview 14 person 2) non-participant observation for 1 year 3) documentary research from news, reports, articles, column, video clips, papers, researches. The scope of this research to find out the local administrators' action.And the structure of Laws, Institute, process, system, informal and formal authorities.

## III. RESULTS AND DISSCUSSION

The result of the interviews, observation and document research find that three parts of informers had different understanding about good governance and most of them thought that good governance is the same as moral virtue ethics or goodness to make people to be good person and do good things. And most of them used rule of law in every step of administration by obey the rules and regulations. These are big issues about good governance in Thai public officers and administrators. For them good governance is the law enforce by government. But it's the same as misunderstanding about Democracy in Thai's perception.

They always think that they have the power to determine the needs of the people. Rather than thinking that they are public servants. They establish rules that force people follow. People have no duty to demanding or investigate them. While people do not know their basic rights and duties of citizens.

Administrators and officers always thought that they follow the Royal decree on criteria and procedures for good governance, 2003 because it is rule of law nobody can denied. It is not about do the right thing but don't against the rules.

Interest groups and stakeholders agreed when they got benefit and angry when they lost. They did not concern about good governance. And they always have special ways to communicate with administrators and officers of local government to bargain and make secret cooperation. Because they had informal relations with them.

Most of people or civil society did not understand the good governance concept they also want the local government administrators or officers to help solves their problems. Such as Poverty, unemployment, health issues, child education, electricity shortages, flooding, drought, lack of infrastructure, natural disasters etc. they do not understand citizenship roles in democracy that involve every characteristic of good governance.

## DISSCUSSION

From conceptual framework of this research we divided characters of good governance into 3 groups. Which different perspectives to described and analyzed the results of data and information from research methodology such as in-depth interviews non-participate observation and documents. Based on information collected from the target groups we found out the outcomes of good governance administration of local government in NakhonRatchasima Province Thailand as follows

1. Composition of good governance that is directly related to the community four components: participations, consensus oriented responsiveness equity and inclusiveness which people highly expected from local government administrators and officers. Because they have problems in many ways and they need help urgently. They wanted to executives and local government officials to solve problems and to help with the living. if people get satisfaction they will vote for this team in next election. That's why administration team gave highest priority to responsiveness. Most of the actions in their duties were support the needs of their people. They also let the people participated in some activities and asked for people opinions but they did not let people involve in policy process or administrative decision-making.

2. Most of administration teams prioritize these kinds of good governance much more than others. Because of the bureaucrats in Thailand so serious about follow the rules and laws. It's the most important thing for them to do their jobs. If they did not follow the rules may has penalties by law. They also believe that good governance all about the rule of law nothing else more important. In case of transparency and accountability they only response the things defined in the law. They ignored about transparency and public accountability. They only allow the organization who have authority by law to examine them.

3. This group of good governance is about administrative performance such as efficiency and effectiveness. Local government already have many of indicators to force the good performance of administration. They tried their best to achieve management's goals. Because the success of their purposes can make them win the next election. The works of local governments mostly depends on budget and leadership skills. But the development issues in local communities Inclined towards the construction of more than developing people.

From the analysis above, it can be concluded that good governance in administrative local government has not been very successful because people still lack knowledge and understanding of the true principles of good governance. and clung to the administration of the traditional bureaucracy filled with rules, regulations and procedures for working with multiple levels. Make no work effectively and efficiently as they should. The officials mostly familiar with the concept that the bureaucracy is a closed system. The officials are predominately and lower level people that are just coming for help. They do not need to serve or ask for the people opinions. People have to follows their lead. Participation consensus oriented transparency accountability are not necessary for their administration. Misunderstanding about democracy and good governance make it so hard to fix the problems. Both public officers and citizens have to learn and understand real concept of democracy and good governance since young ages. And put these concepts to be study in schools and universities all over country. The most important thing is about the political leaders and elites in Thailand should stop lies and deceive Thai people about Thai's democracy

to keep the power and fortunes for themselves. Making people lower than military or elite groups it is not equal and unfair for Thai citizens.

If Thai people did not understand their rights and duties in democracy regime good governance could not happen and the countryhave no liberty and equality.

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